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*South Dakota*

# Labor Bulletin

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## Is rural America dying?

We don't think so. We will use employment change in South Dakota's four major industries as a barometer to measure the growth and/or decline of both urban and rural South Dakota.

For the purpose of this article, we will divide the state into urban and rural areas with South Dakota's urban areas being Minnehaha and Pennington counties and the balance of the state making up its rural area. The four major nonfarm private industries we will examine will include trade, services, manufacturing and finance, insurance and real estate. Also for the purpose of this article, percentages were used so comparisons could more easily be made without the proportional differences between small and large employment bases.

The overall employment growth for all industries statewide from 1980 through 1989 was 18.8 percent (which was an increase of 32,950 jobs).

The trade industry, which is the largest nonfarm private industry in the state, made up 34.9 percent of all employment in South Dakota in 1989. Statewide, this industry experienced an overall employment growth of 11.5 percent (or 7,485 jobs) from 1980 through 1989.

The state's two urban areas (Pennington and Minnehaha counties) both experienced employment growth in the trade industry of 26.1 percent and 23.3 percent, respectively. Rural South Dakota also saw an employment increase of 11.0 percent in the trade industry.

Employment in the wholesale trade division expanded in both urban areas in South Dakota from 1980 through 1989. This growth was due to expansion of existing businesses and the start-up of new businesses in most sectors of this division. Some examples of products distributed by wholesalers include motor vehicle parts, lumber, paper goods and agricultural supplies. The rural area of South Dakota remained stable in the wholesale trade division.

The retail trade division saw employment growth in both urban and rural areas. The three sectors within this division that saw the most dramatic employment growth were miscellaneous merchandise (which includes department stores and convenience stores), food stores and eating and drinking establishments. Growth in these three sectors occurred in both urban and rural South Dakota.

Pennington County showed a larger increase in the miscellaneous retail sector (which includes gift, novelty and souvenir shops) than did either Minnehaha County or rural South Dakota because of tourism in that area. Minnehaha showed high increases in the home furniture, furnishings, and equipment sector (which includes household appliance, computer and consumer electronic stores) because of the population growth in Minnehaha County and the increasing demand for high-tech merchandise by consumers.

The services industry is South Dakota's second largest nonfarm private industry. It made up 28.7 percent of all employment in South Dakota in 1989. From 1980 through 1989, the services industry saw an overall employment growth of 31.7 percent (or 14,380 jobs) statewide.

Both of South Dakota's urban areas led South Dakota's rural area in employment growth in the services industry. Minnehaha County experienced a 54.2 percent increase in employment over the decade while Pennington County saw an employment gain of 42.0 percent. South Dakota's rural area also had employment growth, of 27.9 percent.

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The health services division of the services industry in both urban and rural areas in South Dakota experienced employment gains. In both Minnehaha and Pennington counties, this increase occurred because of expansion into specialty fields such as cardiology, oncology, and neonatal care. In the past decade South Dakota's rural areas increased employment in the health services division also. Much of the growth in this division in rural South Dakota occurred in nursing and personal care facilities.

In addition, the services industry also saw increases in both urban and rural South Dakota in the divisions of legal and social services. A great deal of the growth in these divisions was due to an expansion of services such as day care and residential care, adjustment training programs, alcohol and drug rehabilitation programs and legal services.

## Rural South Dakota soars in Manufacturing

The manufacturing industry is South Dakota's third largest nonfarm private industry. It made up 15.4 percent of all employment in South Dakota in 1989. From 1980 through 1989, the manufacturing industry saw an overall employment growth of 24.1 percent (or 6,240 jobs) statewide.

Rural South Dakota saw an employment boom in the manufacturing industry getting the lion's share of employment growth at 44.3 percent from 1980 through 1989. The two urban areas in South Dakota saw employment gains also. Pennington County increased by 29.2 percent and Minnehaha County increased in employment by 11.8 percent.

The manufacturing industry in South Dakota headed in many directions at once. While both of our urban areas had increases in employment in the manufacturing industry, they did so for different reasons. Minnehaha County's increase in employment in the manufacturing industry was due to the expansion of already established firms. On the other hand, Pennington County's increase was due to the addition of new manufacturers in this county.

And while both Minnehaha and Pennington saw decreases in the food and kindred products division of the manufacturing industry, rural South Dakota saw a significant employment growth in this division. Some examples of products in this division include processed meats such as sausage, cheeses and noodles. Although many of the establishments in the rural area were small in size they were many in number, due to the ingenuity of local economic development efforts and the availability of state funded loans and grants.

The finance, insurance and real estate industry was the fourth largest nonfarm private industry in the state. It made up 7.5 percent of all employment in South Dakota in 1989. From 1980 through 1989, the finance, insurance and real estate industry saw an overall employment growth of 40.2 percent (or 4,455 jobs) statewide.

This industry's growth pattern was unlike any of the other industries we have talked about because the predominate growth in employment (126.4 percent) for this industry occurred specifically in Minnehaha County. The majority of this increase occurred in the non-depository institution sector, which includes firms involved with the approval of credit applications.

Both Pennington County and rural South Dakota saw employment increases in the finance, insurance and real estate industry of 9.2 percent and 7.5 percent, respectively, from 1980 through 1989. And although these gains were important to Pennington and rural South Dakota, they were dimmed somewhat by the dramatic growth of Minnehaha County.

As we can see, South Dakota's major industries have seen strong employment growth statewide in both rural and urban South Dakota. Thus, using employment in our industries as a barometer, we can see that rural America in South Dakota is not only alive and well, but is in fact the glue that bonds our state together.

**Source: South Dakota Department of Labor, Labor Market Information Center**

**Employment and Earnings Covered by Unemployment Insurance**

## South Dakota's Labor Market in May

Nonfarm employment increased to 298,900 in May, up from both month-ago and year-ago levels. This was an increase of 5,100 over April levels, while the over-the-year increase was 7,700. The larger over-the-year increases in May were noted in the retail trade, services, manufacturing and construction industries.

The retail trade industry noted an increase of 3,400 over the year. Competition among retail establishments prompted remodeling and expansion efforts in numerous businesses. These businesses have added more customer convenience services as well as additional products. A new chain of department stores in the state helped boost the employment level in the general merchandise/apparel division. Also showing job growth were eating and drinking establishments; food stores; and building materials/garden supply stores.

The services industry ranked second in job growth. The division of medical and health services captured 800 of the 1,500 job growth. The remaining job growth was noted throughout the other divisions of this industry.

The manufacturing industry increased by 800 jobs from year-ago employment levels. This growth was split evenly between the divisions of durable and nondurable goods.

Some of the growth in the durable goods division of manufacturing was in the construction equipment manufacturing sector.

Boosting employment levels by 200 in the nondurable goods division was the printing and publishing sector. Part of this increase was because of the need for additional personnel to handle business increases due to new product lines and expansion of services to consumers.

The construction industry gained 500 jobs from year-ago employment levels. The majority of these 500 jobs were in the division of building construction.

## Month-to-Month Employment Changes

The May nonfarm employment level showed an increase of 5,100 jobs (or 1.7 percent) over the month. A review of month-to-month employment changes revealed that the May 1991 nonfarm employment level of 298,900 was the highest May level ever recorded since the inception of the Current Employment Statistics survey in 1939.

Tourism exerted a strong seasonal influence on the retail trade and the services industries. The retail trade industry added 1,800 jobs over the month. The majority of these jobs were added in eating and drinking establishments and miscellaneous retail stores. Miscellaneous retail establishments include stores that carry such items as gifts, novelty items and souvenirs.

For the second month in a row, the hotels/motels/amusements division of the services industry noted seasonal growth with the addition of 1,100 jobs. Seasonal businesses such as outdoor plays, summer youth camps, zoos, and golf courses all contributed to this job increase.

Diesel smoke, jackhammers, and detours are back--all signs of the construction season. This industry reported a healthy over-the-month employment surge with the addition of 1,100 jobs. Building construction increased 300 jobs over the month; highway and street construction 600 jobs; and special trade contractors 200 jobs.

The manufacturing industry added 600 jobs over the month. Five hundred of these jobs were in the durable goods division. A portion of this employment increase occurred because of the increased orders for concrete.

Local government employment increased 500 jobs over the month, which can be attributed to the hiring of additional summer help for highway and street construction, and amusement and recreation services. State government increased 100 jobs over the month and can be attributed to the additional hiring of workers for park cleanup, maintenance, and fee collections.

South Dakota's labor force was 364,300 in May, with 352,100 people in the state being employed and 12,200 being unemployed. The unemployment rate was 3.4 percent, remaining the same as the April rate.

## Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

| | May 1991 (1) | | | | May 1990 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Labor Force(2) | Employment | Unemployment | Rate | Labor Force(2) | Employment | Unemployment | Rate |
| United States | 124,857,000 | 116,624,000 | 8,233,000 | 6.6(3) | 124,640,000 | 118,277,000 | 6,363,000 | 5.1(3) |
| South Dakota | 364,300 | 352,100 | 12,200 | 3.4 | 362,500 | 350,100 | 12,400 | 3.4 |
| Sioux Falls MSA | 76,045 | 74,248 | 1,797 | 2.4 | 75,059 | 73,206 | 1,853 | 2.5 |
| Rapid City MSA | 40,510 | 39,098 | 1,412 | 3.5 | 40,081 | 38,769 | 1,312 | 3.3 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Aurora | 1,422 | 1,412 | 10 | .7 | 1,474 | 1,459 | 15 | 1.0 |
| Beadle | 8,659 | 8,349 | 310 | 3.6 | 9,181 | 8,847 | 334 | 3.6 |
| Bennett | 1,446 | 1,415 | 31 | 2.1 | 1,548 | 1,481 | 67 | 4.3 |
| Bon Homme | 3,618 | 3,492 | 126 | 3.5 | 3,499 | 3,474 | 25 | .7 |
| Brookings | 15,066 | 14,410 | 656 | 4.4 | 15,641 | 14,264 | 1,377 | 8.8 |
| Brown | 20,077 | 19,107 | 970 | 4.8 | 19,939 | 18,900 | 1,039 | 5.2 |
| Brule | 2,724 | 2,689 | 35 | 1.3 | 2,785 | 2,743 | 42 | 1.5 |
| Buffalo | 423 | 399 | 24 | 5.7 | 443 | 420 | 23 | 5.2 |
| Butte | 3,598 | 3,453 | 145 | 4.0 | 3,521 | 3,419 | 102 | 2.9 |
| Campbell | 1,094 | 1,059 | 35 | 3.2 | 1,086 | 1,067 | 19 | 1.7 |
| Charles Mix | 3,738 | 3,638 | 100 | 2.7 | 3,816 | 3,730 | 86 | 2.3 |
| Clark | 1,898 | 1,819 | 79 | 4.2 | 1,923 | 1,875 | 48 | 2.5 |
| Clay | 7,245 | 6,941 | 304 | 4.2 | 7,455 | 7,038 | 417 | 5.6 |
| Codington | 13,009 | 12,390 | 619 | 4.8 | 12,375 | 12,002 | 373 | 3.0 |
| Corson | 1,467 | 1,322 | 145 | 9.9 | 1,553 | 1,415 | 138 | 8.9 |
| Custer | 4,230 | 4,098 | 132 | 3.1 | 3,990 | 3,848 | 142 | 3.6 |
| Davison | 9,354 | 9,128 | 226 | 2.4 | 9,335 | 9,195 | 140 | 1.5 |
| Day | 3,389 | 3,202 | 187 | 5.5 | 3,365 | 3,209 | 156 | 4.6 |
| Deuel | 2,222 | 2,189 | 33 | 1.5 | 2,164 | 2,120 | 44 | 2.0 |
| Dewey | 1,985 | 1,863 | 122 | 6.1 | 2,070 | 1,936 | 134 | 6.5 |
| Douglas | 1,608 | 1,588 | 20 | 1.2 | 1,631 | 1,612 | 19 | 1.2 |
| Edmunds | 1,957 | 1,922 | 35 | 1.8 | 2,052 | 1,983 | 69 | 3.4 |
| Fall River | 3,134 | 3,020 | 114 | 3.6 | 3,335 | 3,206 | 129 | 3.9 |
| Faulk | 1,149 | 1,133 | 16 | 1.4 | 1,198 | 1,188 | 10 | .8 |
| Grant | 4,114 | 3,933 | 181 | 4.4 | 4,172 | 3,984 | 188 | 4.5 |
| Gregory | 2,315 | 2,288 | 27 | 1.2 | 2,445 | 2,410 | 35 | 1.4 |
| Haakon | 1,175 | 1,149 | 26 | 2.2 | 1,176 | 1,128 | 48 | 4.1 |
| Hamlin | 2,416 | 2,347 | 69 | 2.9 | 2,525 | 2,400 | 125 | 5.0 |
| Hand | 1,835 | 1,798 | 37 | 2.0 | 1,917 | 1,869 | 48 | 2.5 |
| Hanson | 1,399 | 1,368 | 31 | 2.2 | 1,448 | 1,425 | 23 | 1.6 |
| Harding | 804 | 794 | 10 | 1.2 | 808 | 798 | 10 | 1.2 |
| Hughes | 8,562 | 8,336 | 226 | 2.6 | 8,403 | 8,294 | 109 | 1.3 |
| Hutchinson | 4,037 | 3,894 | 143 | 3.5 | 4,035 | 3,979 | 56 | 1.4 |
| Hyde | 817 | 786 | 31 | 3.8 | 836 | 828 | 8 | 1.0 |
| Jackson | 1,644 | 1,589 | 55 | 3.3 | 1,688 | 1,644 | 44 | 2.6 |

## Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

| | May 1991 (1) | | | | May 1990 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Labor Force(2) | Employment | Unemployment | Rate | Labor Force(2) | Employment | Unemployment | Rate |
| Jerauld | 1,153 | 1,135 | 18 | 1.6 | 1,175 | 1,140 | 35 | 3.0 |
| Jones | 690 | 670 | 20 | 2.9 | 702 | 679 | 23 | 3.3 |
| Kingsbury | 2,641 | 2,564 | 77 | 2.9 | 2,714 | 2,641 | 73 | 2.7 |
| Lake | 5,221 | — 4,946 | 275 | 5.3 | 5,355 | 5,105 | 250 | 4.7 |
| Lawrence | 14,092 | 13,387 | 705 | 5.0 | 12,422 | 11,898 | 524 | 4.2 |
| Lincoln | 7,369 | 7,167 | 202 | 2.7 | 7,259 | 7,090 | 169 | 2.3 |
| Lyman | 1,394 | 1,333 | 61 | 4.4 | 1,422 | 1,389 | 33 | 2.3 |
| McCook | 2,787 | 2,748 | 39 | 1.4 | 2,911 | 2,798 | 113 | 3.9 |
| McPherson | 1,436 | 1,416 | 20 | 1.4 | 1,535 | 1,483 | 52 | 3.4 |
| Marshall | 2,122 | 2,096 | 26 | 1.2 | 2,264 | 2,172 | 92 | 4.1 |
| Meade | 10,115 | 9,722 | 393 | 3.9 | 9,659 | 9,267 | 392 | 4.1 |
| Mellette | 841 | 812 | 29 | 3.4 | 881 | 850 | 31 | 3.5 |
| Miner | 1,515 | 1,499 | 16 | 1.1 | 1,524 | 1,480 | 44 | 2.9 |
| Minnehaha | 76,045 | 74,248 | 1,797 | 2.4 | 75,059 | 73,206 | 1,853 | 2.5 |
| Moody | 3,308 | 3,235 | 73 | 2.2 | 3,348 | 3,123 | 225 | 6.7 |
| Pennington | 40,510 | 39,098 | 1,412 | 3.5 | 40,081 | 38,769 | 1,312 | 3.3 |
| Perkins | 2,171 | 2,138 | 33 | 1.5 | 2,300 | 2,260 | 40 | 1.7 |
| Potter | 1,389 | 1,344 | 45 | 3.2 | 1,478 | 1,430 | 48 | 3.2 |
| Roberts | 4,587 | 4,434 | 153 | 3.3 | 4,640 | 4,440 | 200 | 4.3 |
| Sanborn | 1,090 | 1,072 | 18 | 1.7 | 1,081 | 1,071 | 10 | .9 |
| Shannon | 2,390 | 2,192 | 198 | 8.3 | 2,497 | 2,305 | 192 | 7.7 |
| Spink | 3,466 | 3,423 | 43 | 1.2 | 3,597 | 3,518 | 79 | 2.2 |
| Stanley | 1,390 | 1,363 | 27 | 1.9 | 1,454 | 1,408 | 46 | 3.2 |
| Sully | 793 | 779 | 14 | 1.8 | 791 | 776 | 15 | 1.9 |
| Todd | 2,674 | 2,509 | 165 | 6.2 | 2,718 | 2,516 | 202 | 7.4 |
| Tripp | 3,340 | 3,250 | 90 | 2.7 | 3,359 | 3,269 | 90 | 2.7 |
| Turner | 4,149 | 4,088 | 61 | 1.5 | 4,154 | 4,106 | 48 | 1.2 |
| Union | 6,694 | 6,370 | 324 | 4.8 | 6,245 | 5,974 | 271 | 4.3 |
| Walworth | 2,984 | 2,801 | 183 | 6.1 | 2,927 | 2,875 | 52 | 1.8 |
| Yankton | 11,189 | 10,824 | 365 | 3.3 | 10,914 | 10,745 | 169 | 1.5 |
| Ziebach | 1,153 | 1,114 | 39 | 3.4 | 1,202 | 1,141 | 61 | 5.1 |

(1) Preliminary data subject to revision.
(2) Labor force estimates include employed and unemployed civilians 16 years old and older by place of residence.
(3) The seasonally-adjusted rates which were announced by the national government were 6.9 and 5.3. The data in this table are not seasonally-adjusted.

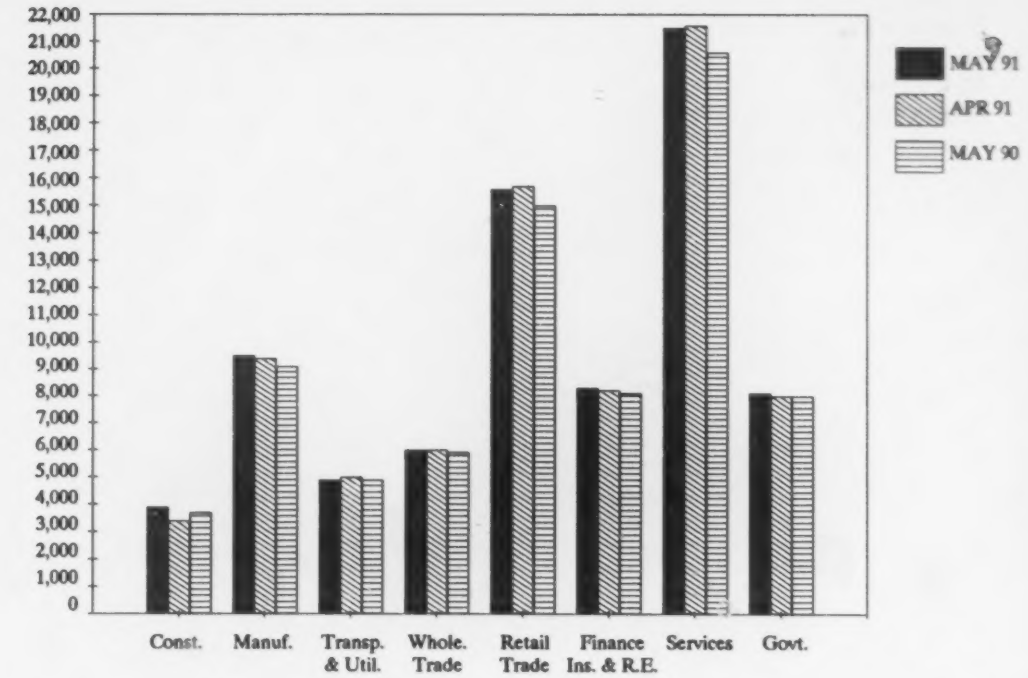
SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## South Dakota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | Percent Change From Last Month | Percent Change From Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL | 298,900 | 293,800 | 291,200 | 1.7 | 2.6 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 233,800 | 229,200 | 226,200 | 2.0 | 3.4 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 49,800 | 48,000 | 48,500 | 3.8 | 2.7 |
| MINING | 2,600 | 2,500 | 2,600 | 4.0 | .0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 12,400 | 11,300 | 11,900 | 9.7 | 4.2 |
| MANUFACTURING | 34,800 | 34,200 | 34,000 | 1.8 | 2.4 |
| Durable Goods | 20,100 | 19,600 | 19,700 | 2.6 | 2.0 |
| Fabricated Metals & Machinery | 11,600 | 11,500 | 11,400 | .9 | 1.8 |
| Nondurable Goods | 14,700 | 14,600 | 14,300 | .7 | 2.8 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 7,400 | 7,500 | 7,700 | -1.3 | -3.9 |
| Printing & Publishing | 3,300 | 3,200 | 3,100 | 3.1 | 6.5 |
| SERVICE PRODUCING | 249,100 | 245,800 | 242,700 | 1.3 | 2.6 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 13,800 | 13,800 | 13,200 | .0 | 4.5 |
| Transportation | 8,200 | 8,300 | 7,900 | -1.2 | 3.8 |
| Communication | 3,300 | 3,300 | 3,000 | .0 | 10.0 |
| Electric/Gas/Sanitary Services | 2,300 | 2,200 | 2,300 | 4.5 | .0 |
| TRADE | 79,800 | 78,000 | 76,000 | 2.3 | 5.0 |
| Wholesale Trade | 19,200 | 19,200 | 18,800 | .0 | 2.1 |
| Durable Goods | 8,600 | 8,700 | 8,500 | -1.1 | 1.2 |
| Nondurable Goods | 10,600 | 10,500 | 10,300 | 1.0 | 2.9 |
| Retail Trade | 60,600 | 58,800 | 57,200 | 3.1 | 5.9 |
| Eating and Drinking Establishments | 22,100 | 21,000 | 21,100 | 5.2 | 4.7 |
| General Merchandise/Apparel | 8,300 | 8,200 | 7,300 | 1.2 | 13.7 |
| Food Stores | 8,700 | 8,600 | 8,300 | 1.2 | 4.8 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE | 16,600 | 16,500 | 16,200 | .6 | 2.5 |
| Finance | 10,800 | 10,800 | 10,600 | .0 | 1.9 |
| Depository Institutions | 5,800 | 5,700 | 5,700 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Nondepository Institutions | 4,400 | 4,400 | 4,300 | .0 | 2.3 |
| Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers | 3,900 | 3,900 | 3,800 | .0 | 2.6 |
| SERVICES | 73,800 | 72,900 | 72,300 | 1.2 | 2.1 |
| Hotels/Motels & Amusements | 9,900 | 8,800 | 9,900 | 12.5 | .0 |
| Personal and Business | 8,700 | 8,500 | 8,600 | 2.4 | 1.2 |
| Medical and Health Services | 27,600 | 27,800 | 26,800 | -.7 | 3.0 |
| Hospitals | 12,800 | 13,100 | 12,500 | -2.3 | 2.4 |
| Health Services, other than Hospitals | 14,800 | 14,700 | 14,300 | .7 | 3.5 |
| Educational Services | 5,600 | 5,600 | 5,500 | .0 | 1.8 |
| Social Services | 5,700 | 5,600 | 5,400 | 1.8 | 5.6 |
| Membership Organizations | 8,600 | 8,800 | 8,500 | -2.3 | 1.2 |
| GOVERNMENT | 65,100 | 64,600 | 65,000 | .8 | .2 |
| Federal | 11,400 | 11,500 | 12,000 | -.9 | -5.0 |
| State | 17,400 | 17,300 | 17,600 | .6 | -1.1 |
| State Education | 8,600 | 8,600 | 8,500 | .0 | 1.2 |
| Local | 36,300 | 35,800 | 35,400 | 1.4 | 2.5 |
| Local Education | 20,900 | 21,000 | 20,400 | -.5 | 2.5 |

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Sioux Falls MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

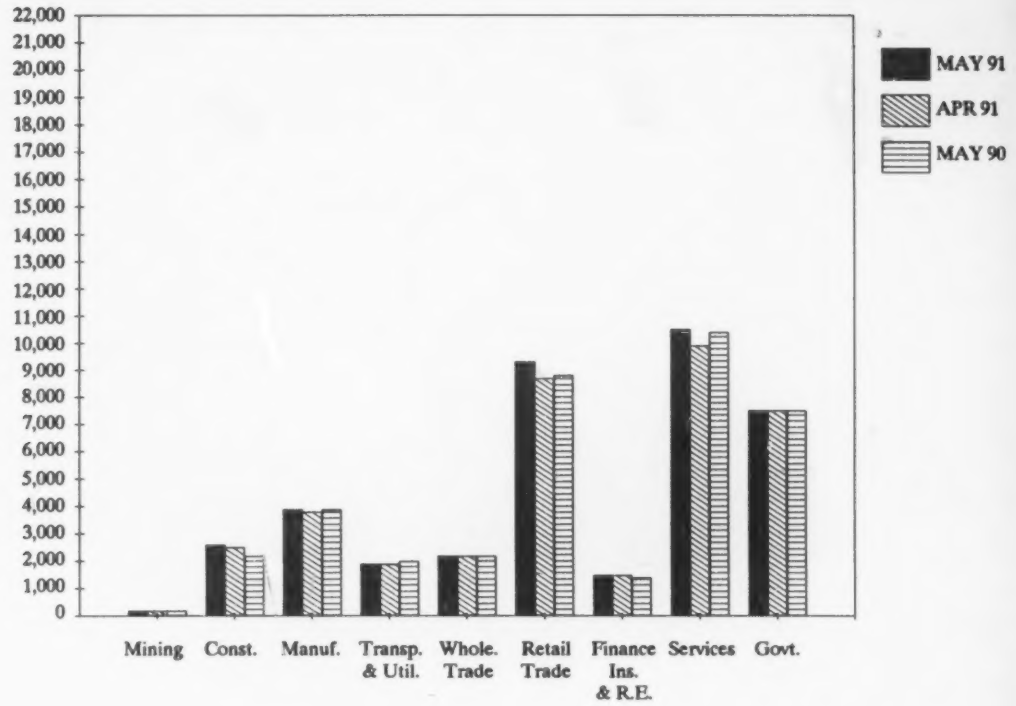



| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | Percent Change From Last Month | Percent Change From Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL | 77,900 | 77,400 | 75,300 | .6 | 3.5 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 13,500 | 12,900 | 12,800 | 4.7 | 5.5 |
| *MINING | | | | | |
| CONSTRUCTION | 3,900 | 3,400 | 3,700 | 14.7 | 5.4 |
| MANUFACTURING | 9,500 | 9,400 | 9,100 | 1.1 | 4.4 |
| SERVICE PRODUCING | 64,400 | 64,500 | 62,500 | -.2 | 3.0 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 4,900 | 5,000 | 4,900 | -2.0 | .0 |
| TRADE | 21,600 | 21,700 | 20,900 | -.5 | 3.3 |
| Wholesale | 6,000 | 6,000 | 5,900 | .0 | 1.7 |
| Retail | 15,600 | 15,700 | 15,000 | -.6 | 4.0 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE | 8,300 | 8,200 | 8,100 | 1.2 | 2.5 |
| SERVICES | 21,500 | 21,600 | 20,600 | -.5 | 4.4 |
| GOVERNMENT | 8,100 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 1.3 | 1.3 |

*Mining employment not published, employment less than 100.

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Rapid City MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)




| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | Percent Change From Last Month | Percent Change From Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL | 39,600 | 38,200 | 38,600 | 3.7 | 2.6 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 6,700 | 6,500 | 6,300 | 3.1 | 6.3 |
| MINING | 200 | 200 | 200 | .0 | .0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 2,600 | 2,500 | 2,200 | 4.0 | 18.2 |
| MANUFACTURING | 3,900 | 3,800 | 3,900 | 2.6 | .0 |
| SERVICE PRODUCING | 32,900 | 31,700 | 32,300 | 3.8 | 1.9 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 1,900 | 1,900 | 2,000 | .0 | -5.0 |
| TRADE | 11,500 | 10,900 | 11,000 | 5.5 | 4.5 |
| Wholesale | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | .0 | .0 |
| Retail | 9,300 | 8,700 | 8,800 | 6.9 | 5.7 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,400 | .0 | 7.1 |
| SERVICES | 10,500 | 9,900 | 10,400 | 6.1 | 1.0 |
| GOVERNMENT | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 | .0 | .0 |

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: The figures on pages 6, 7 and 8 include almost all nonfarm wage earners (full and part-time) but exclude the self-employed. They are derived from a monthly sample survey of South Dakota non-agricultural establishments and include workers on the payroll for the week including the 12th of the month. These tables compare the current month's employment totals of the major industry groups to the totals of the previous month and year.

## Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in South Dakota

| | Number of Production Workers | | | Average Weekly Hours | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 |
| Total Private | 193,300 | 189,800 | 188,400 | 32.9 | 32.4 | 32.8 |
| Mining | 2,200 | 2,100 | 2,200 | 42.0 | 41.5 | 43.6 |
| Construction | 9,700 | 8,700 | 9,500 | 37.8 | 35.0 | 41.1 |
| Manufacturing | 25,500 | 25,200 | 25,700 | 40.4 | 40.3 | 40.1 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 11,400 | 11,400 | 11,100 | 37.6 | 38.7 | 37.7 |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade | 69,600 | 68,400 | 66,500 | 30.6 | 29.6 | 30.8 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 12,600 | 12,500 | 12,200 | 34.7 | 35.4 | 35.2 |
| Services | 62,300 | 61,500 | 61,200 | 30.0 | 29.8 | 28.8 |

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 |
| Total Private | $267.48 | $266.00 | $254.86 | $8.13 | $8.21 | $7.77 |
| Mining | 525.00 | 522.90 | 533.23 | 12.50 | 12.60 | 12.23 |
| Construction | 376.49 | 360.15 | 404.01 | 9.96 | 10.29 | 9.83 |
| Manufacturing | 353.90 | 355.85 | 339.25 | 8.76 | 8.83 | 8.46 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 423.75 | 430.73 | 419.22 | 11.27 | 11.13 | 11.12 |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade | 207.16 | 202.46 | 198.04 | 6.77 | 6.84 | 6.43 |
| Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate | 303.63 | 305.50 | 272.80 | 8.75 | 8.63 | 7.75 |
| Services | 237.30 | 239.00 | 214.27 | 7.91 | 8.02 | 7.44 |

## Hours and Earnings of Manufacturing Production Workers in MSAs

| | Number of Manufacturing Production Workers | | | Average Weekly Hours | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 |
| Sioux Falls MSA | 6,700 | 6,600 | 6,400 | 40.1 | 39.2 | 41.2 |
| Rapid City MSA | 3,000 | 3,100 | 3,100 | 44.3 | 41.1 | 42.9 |

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 |
| Sioux Falls MSA | $361.70 | $359.07 | $360.09 | $9.02 | $9.16 | $8.74 |
| Rapid City MSA | 423.07 | 390.45 | 392.54 | 9.55 | 9.50 | 9.15 |

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of payrolls and hours for production and related workers in manufacturing and mining, construction workers in construction, and non-supervisory employees in private service-producing industries. The data cover full and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The earnings figures are "gross" figures. They may be higher than employer wage rates, since they reflect premium pay for shift differentials and overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received; this is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

## Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed[1]

| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sex, Total | 1,604 | 2,355 | 1,480 |
| Male | 901 | 1,560 | 750 |
| Female | 703 | 795 | 730 |
| Race, Total | 1,604 | 2,355 | 1,480 |
| White | 1,438 | 2,128 | 1,325 |
| Nonwhite | 166 | 227 | 155 |
| Age, Total | 1,604 | 2,355 | 1,480 |
| Under 45 | 1,132 | 1,714 | 1,044 |
| Over 45 | 472 | 641 | 436 |
| [2]Industry, Total | 1,604 | 2,355 | 1,480 |
| Mining | 25 | 80 | 35 |
| Construction | 220 | 498 | 178 |
| Manufacturing | 429 | 686 | 515 |
| Transportation & Public Utilities | 90 | 113 | 49 |
| Trade | 393 | 405 | 268 |
| Finance, Insurance & Real Estate | 48 | 61 | 79 |
| Services | 326 | 393 | 295 |
| Government | 73 | 119 | 61 |
| [2]Occupation | 1,604 | 2,355 | 1,480 |
| Professional & Managerial | 238 | 284 | 244 |
| Clerical and Sales | 318 | 333 | 290 |
| Services | 265 | 271 | 157 |
| Processing | 44 | 98 | 56 |
| Machine Trade | 116 | 135 | 98 |
| Benchwork | 170 | 255 | 271 |
| Structural Work | 314 | 667 | 238 |
| Other | 139 | 312 | 126 |
| Duration of Current Unemployment | | | |
| Total | 1,604 | 2,355 | 1,480 |
| 1-2 Weeks | 234 | 294 | 235 |
| 3-4 Weeks | 231 | 264 | 158 |
| 5-14 Weeks | 663 | 1,127 | 581 |
| 15 Weeks & Over | 476 | 670 | 506 |

[1]The insured unemployed are those persons who had worked for employers covered by South Dakota's Unemployment Insurance laws and who filed claims for unemployment insurance compensation during the week including the 12th of the month.

[2]Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

## Selected Labor Department Activities

| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | Percent Change From Last Month | Percent Change From Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Unemployment Insurance | | | | | |
| A. Initial Claims | 1,386 | 1,530 | 1,279 | -9.4 | 8.4 |
| B. Weeks Compensated | 9,030 | 10,698 | 7,578 | -15.6 | 19.2 |
| C. Amount of Benefit Payments | $820,523 | $999,597 | $636,584 | -17.9 | 28.9 |
| D. Unemployment Trust Fund Bal. | $46,695,139 | $46,721,845 | $45,175,557 | -0.1 | 3.4 |
| Job Service | | | | | |
| E. Applicants Available (New and Renewal) | 6,834 | 4,832 | 7,240 | 41.4 | -5.6 |
| F. Nonfarm Placements | 5,384 | 3,339 | 5,827 | 61.2 | -7.6 |
| G. Nonfarm Job Openings | 11,807 | 9,320 | 13,725 | 26.7 | -14.0 |

## Selected Labor Department Activities (Continued)

| | May 1991 |
|---|---|
| H. Unemployment Insurance Savings | $92,767 |

The data above and in the table at the bottom of page 10 are taken from the records of the state unemployment insurance program and the state Job Service system.

A. Initial Claims - The total number of first claims for unemployment compensation.

B. Weeks Compensated - The total number of weeks for which claimants received compensation.

C. Amount of Benefit Payments - The total amount of money paid to claimants.

D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance - The fund to which all required Unemployment Insurance taxes are paid and from which all benefits to claimants are paid.

E. Applicants Available (New and Renewals) - The total number of different individuals who registered or renewed their registrations for work at Job Service offices in the state.

F. Nonag Placements - A count of the number of times during the month that Job Service applicants were hired by nonfarm employers.

G. Nonag Job Openings - A count of new job openings received during the month by South Dakota Job Service offices from nonfarm employers.

H. Unemployment Insurance Savings - Estimated dollars saved due to placement of Unemployment Insurance claimants in jobs by Job Service.

## Department of Labor paid $9.9 million in benefits in 1990

The South Dakota Department of Labor paid $9.9 million in weekly unemployment insurance benefits in 1990. Labor Department officials estimate 95.3 percent of the $9,940,526 in benefits were properly paid to claimants.

The percentage of dollars underpaid was estimated at 0.6 percent. In these cases, the claimants were entitled to the amount originally paid, plus an additional amount discovered by audit. The percentage of dollars overpaid was estimated at 4.7 percent, the lowest error rate recorded since South Dakota began random audits in 1984. More than 52 percent of the overpayments resulted from workers not making the required search for new jobs in the weeks they were unemployed, said Don Kattke, director of the department's Unemployment Insurance Division.

Another 37 percent of the overpayments occurred because claimants worked but did not report wages, or reported less than the amount earned, in the weeks they filed for unemployment benefits. The balance of the overpayments occurred for various reasons, such as claimants not being available for work or wage data incorrectly reported by employers.

The estimates come from the Unemployment Insurance Division's quality control program. Quality control investigates unemployment insurance claims based on a random sample of weekly claims. "These figures are the Unemployment Insurance Division's best estimates of the actual percentages," Kattke said. He said he is confident the division's estimates lie within 1.9 percent of the actual percentages for benefits properly and improperly paid and within 0.4 percent of the dollars underpaid.

Information needed to determine Unemployment Insurance eligibility is reverified through personal interviews with claimants and employers and inspection of employer records, Kattke said.

The quality control program reverified 400 claims in 1990. Results were used to estimate the potential dollars properly and improperly paid to Unemployment Insurance claimants.

Kattke said the Department of Labor continues to work to lower errors and make program improvements. Claims for weeks of unemployment are audited by matching them with employer earning records for the same period. Kattke said overpayments detected through this procedure must be repaid. People who file fraudulent claims also lose future benefits or in more serious casses face criminal charges, he said.

The department also has revised and simplified information on filing requirements and the forms used for filing claims. New procedures are being tested to verify wages reported when claimants return to work and additional training is being made available to Department of Labor field office staff.

*South Dakota*
# Labor Bulletin

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## Selected National Economic Indicators

| | May 1991 | April 1991 | May 1990 | Percent Change From Last Month | Percent Change From Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Consumer Price Index[1] | 135.6 | 135.2 | 129.2 | 0.3 | 5.0 |
| Industrial Production Index[2] | 105.8 | 105.3 | 109.4 | 0.5 | -3.3 |
| Retail Trade Sales[3] | $152,476 | $150,909 | $148,822 | 1.0 | 2.5 |
| Privately Owned Housing Starts[4] | 982 | 981 | 1,208 | 0.1 | -18.7 |
| Bank Prime Loan Rate[5] | 8.50 | 9.00 | 10.00 | -5.56 | -15.00 |

[1]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1982-84 = 100.
[2]Federal Reserve Board. Includes manufacturing, mining and utilities. 1987 = 100. Seasonally adjusted.
[3]Bureau of the Census. Adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences. In millions of dollars.
[4]Bureau of the Census. Includes new, privately owned housing units started. Seasonally adjusted annual rates. In thousands of units.
[5]Federal Reserve Board. Annual rates.